

Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

8274 '99 JUL 27 AIO:15

RE: DOCKET NOS: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197

Dear FDA:

I am writing to strongly ask that the FDA prohibit the practice of forced molting in laying hens because forced molting has been scientifically shown to promote disease by destroying the starving hens' immune systems.

The FDA must ban the forced molting of laying hens because forced molting is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs. Forced molting is so stressful it destroys the hens' immune systems, predisposing the birds and their eggs to Salmonella poison.

This organization must do more than put bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and regulate egg refrigeration temperatures. The FDA has jurisdiction to ban farm practices, such as forced molting, that injure human health.

Back in April of 1998 the FDA was petitioned to ban forced molting. This petition should be granted without further delay.

I await your reply.

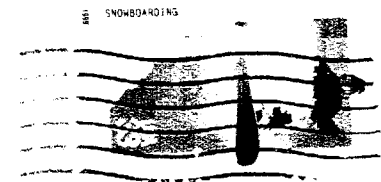
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98N-1230

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
**CROSS REFERENCE SHEET**

Docket Number/Item Code: 98N-1230/C 10

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